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EDIC Case No. 25
Control No. 461441
5 March 1957

SUBJECT

Sino-Soviet Bloc Purchases of Cobalt

REQUESTING AGENCY AND DATE

MDAC on behalf of EDAC WG II Diversion Control Panel,
21 February 1957

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF INFORMATION

15 April 1957

PROPOSED USE

To evaluate the importance of cobalt to the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

REFERENCES

Memorandum to Chairman of EDIC from ICA/MDAC representative of
25 February 1957.

BACKGROUND

A significant increase in reported Sino-Soviet Bloc attempts to obtain cobalt, which is embargoed to the Bloc by COCOM/CHINCOM strategic trade controls, has been noted over the past year. It appears that the Bloc now assigns a high priority to the procurement of this metal. The DCP is interested in an intelligence study dealing with this trade to determine the extent of such procurement and its importance to the Bloc.

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ACTION REQUESTED

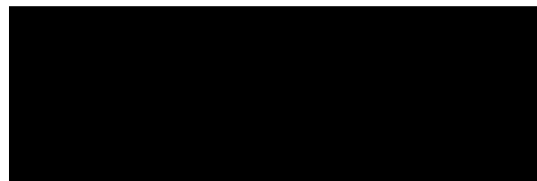
It is requested that EDIC prepare:

1. An estimate of the extent and an analysis of the pattern of Sino-Soviet Bloc imports of cobalt in 1956 from:
 - a) COCOM countries
 - b) Other Free World countries
2. An estimate of the Sino-Soviet Bloc supply position in cobalt including:
 - a) Production and imports
 - b) Consumption and exports
 - c) Stocks
 - d) Substitutes
 - e) Wartime requirements

ASSIGNMENT OF PRODUCTION RESPONSIBILITY

CIA is assigned responsibility for this project in coordination with State/OIR.

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Chairman

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